Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Are not the Government aware that cocoanut is the mainstay of a large section of the people of the State ?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—One of the mainstays.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Are not the Government aware that the price has gone very low ?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—Yes.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Are not the Government aware that the people are suffering a great deal owing to the fall in price of cocoanut ?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—People may be suffering or not, we do not know.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Have the Government enquired why the value of cocoanut has gone down ?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—The value of other articles also has gone down. In the same way the value of cocoanut also has gone down.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Have the Government enquired the reason for the value of the cocoanut having gone down ?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—No special enquiry was made.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Was the dumping of Ceylon Copra one of the reasons for the low value of the cocoanut here ?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—It is so.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Have the Government taken any step in this matter ?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—We have addressed the Imperial Government.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Has any reply been received ?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—No final reply has been received.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to collect the information ?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—What information, please ?

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—The quantity of copra exported in previous years.

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—From the ports of Malabar the information can be given. Not particularly from Cochin.

Cocoanut oil and copra import.

285. Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the quantity of cocoanut oil and copra imported into Cochin from Ceylon for the last 5 years showing the quantity for each year ;

(b) what were the rates of duty levied during the last 5 years on cocoanut oil and copra imported into Cochin from Ceylon ?

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Mr. M. P. Cherian.—(a) Copra from Ceylon was imported into Cochin for the first time in 1932-33, when 4,730 tons of it were let in. Statistics regarding cocoanut oil are not available.

(b) The rates of duty on copra were :—

(i) 20 per cent *ad valorem* in 1931 when the tariff value was fixed at Rs. 16 per cwt.

(ii) 25 per cent *ad valorem* in 1932 when the tariff value was fixed at Rs. 11—12—0 per cwt.

(iii) 30 per cent, standard and 20 percent preferential, in 1933, when the tariff value was fixed at Rs. 10 per cwt.

No further information is available.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Why was the Tariff value lowered?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—It is not our concern.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Does it not affect our interests also in lowering the Tariff value?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—In a way it may affect.

Mr. Paul Mampilli—Did not the British Government consult Cochin Government in reducing the Tariff value?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No.

Mr. Paul Mampilli—Have we not a right to be consulted when Tariff value of cocoanut is reduced?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Did you make any representation on the reduction of Tariff value?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is not necessary nor is it possible to make such representations.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—Why is it not possible?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is not absolutely within the powers of the respective Governments.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—With regard to sub-division (3) it is stated '30 per cent standard and 20 per cent preferential'. Is it not the preferential rate that is levied on Ceylon copra?

M. P. Cherian.—Yes. It is the preferential rate.

Pay of certain officers.

286. **Mr. P. Raman Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the pay of the officers of other departments such as Education, Accounts and Finance, were revised ;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, when ;

(c) the reason for the same ?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—(a) Yes.

(b) The general revision was with effect from 1st Chingam 1105. The pay of some posts in the Education Department was further revised subsequently.

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